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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/023,602 02/13/98 DOUVEN

L 34.140

EXAMINER

QM11/1116

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED:

11/16/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/023,602

Applicant(s)

Douven et al.

Examiner

Hwei-Siu Payer

Group Art Unit

3724



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☒ The drawing(s) filed on Feb 13, 1998 is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 3

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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Detailed Action

The preliminary amendment filed on 2-13-1998 has been entered.

Drawings Objection

1. The drawings are objected to because Fig.2 is a conventional rotary shaving head and should be labeled as "**PRIOR ART**". Further, reference numeral "7" shown in Fig.2 has not been described in the specification. Correction is required.
2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the **cut-off switch** (cited in claim 3) must be shown or the features canceled from the claim. No new matter should be entered.

Claims Rejection - 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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In claim 2, lines 3-4, "**the shaver body**" has no antecedent basis. Further, "the rotary cutter and the first portion of the peripheral surface **is fixed to**" (at line 3) should read --the rotary cutter and the first portion of the peripheral surface **are fixed to**--.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. 102 (b)

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being clearly anticipated by Uchiyama et al.

Uchiyama et al. shows the claimed shaving apparatus in which element (18) that is inside the annular ring of the rotary cutter (40) is considered to define a first portion of the peripheral surface of the head assembly.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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2. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchiyama et al. in view of Zuurveen.

Uchiyama et al. shows the claimed shaving apparatus except the rotary cutter (40) is not resiliently biased against the guard (12). Zuurveen shows a shaving apparatus comprising a spring (7") for biasing a rotary cutter (7) against a guard (8). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Uchiyama et al. by having the rotary cutter (40) resiliently biased against the guard (12) to facilitate a close shave during shaving operation as taught by Zuurveen.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior Art Citations

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Herrick, Bosch and Bergsma et al. are cited as art of interest.

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hwei-Siu Payer her telephone number is (703) 308-1405. She can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada, can be reached at (703) 308-2187.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [rinaldi.rada@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

Group FAX number is (703) 305-3579. Any transmission which applicant does not want to be considered as an official response should be clearly marked as "DRAFT".

H. Payer
November 9, 1998



**Hwei-Siu Payer
Primary Examiner**